

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/972,241

Examiner

Kelly L. Jerabek

Applicant(s)

HASHIMOTO, TAKAAKI

Art Unit

2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to After Final Amendment Filed 1/25/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2, 3 (renum as 13), 4, 6-9 (renum as 5-8), 11-12, 13-14 (renum as 9-10), 15-22 (renum as 17-24), 23 (renum as 14), 24 (renum as 3), 25-26 (renum as 15-16), 27 (renum as 25) and 28 (renum as 1).
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2, 3 (renumbered as 13), 4, 6-9 (renumbered as 5-8), 11-12, 13-14 (renumbered as 9-10), 15-22 (renumbered as 17-24), 23 (renumbered as 14), 24 (renumbered as 3), 25-26 (renumbered as 15-16), 27 (renumbered as 25) and 28 (renumbered as 1) are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Re claim 15, the prior art fails to teach or suggest "A diaphragm unit provided in **a lens barrel** of a CCTV surveillance camera, comprising: a base plate..., a filter supporting plate...; an infrared absorbing filter fixed to the supporting plate; a pair of diaphragm plates...; at least one ND filter...; **and first and second actuators fixed to the base plate on opposite sides of the plane portion of the base plate respectively...**"

Re claim 27, the prior art fails to teach or suggest "A diaphragm device, comprising: a plurality of diaphragm blades...; a filter supporting plate having an infrared absorbing filter; **a base plate which supports the plurality of diaphragm blades and the filter supporting plate on opposite surfaces of the base plate, respectively; a**

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first driver for moving the plurality of diaphragm blades on the base plate to adjust a size of the variable-sized aperture; and a second driver for moving the filter supporting plate on the base plate so that the infrared absorbing filter is selectively inserted into and retracted from an optical path in the lens barrel; wherein the first driver and the second driver are positioned on opposite sides of the base plate”.

Re claim 28, the prior art fails to teach or suggest “ A diaphragm device of a lens for a CCTV camera, comprising: a lens barrel; a diaphragm; a base plate which supports the diaphragm; a diaphragm driver...; an optical filter; a filter driver...; **wherein the diaphragm is provided on a first side of the base plate and the optical filter is provided on a second side of the base plate which is opposite to the first side of the base plate; wherein the diaphragm is driven by the diaphragm driver independently of the moving of the optical filter by the filter driver; and wherein the diaphragm, the base plate, the diaphragm driver, the optical filter, and the filter driver are provided in the lens barrel”**

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

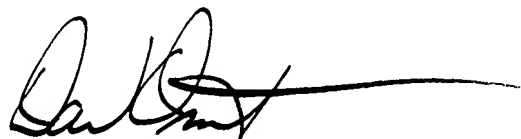
Contacts

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kelly L. Jerabek whose telephone number is (571) 272-7312. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Ometz can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for submitting all Official communications is (703) 872-9306. The fax phone number for submitting informal communications such as drafts, proposed amendments, etc., may be faxed directly to the Examiner at (571) 273-7312.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KLJ



DAVID OMETZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER